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TWO RECENT BOOKS on forestry² will help greatly to popularize the knowledge of this subject, and too much cannot be said concerning their usefulness. The science of forestry has made such rapid progress during the last ten years that any work that discusses in a readable yet scientific way the subject in all its phases should find a ready sale among teachers of nature-study, woodland owners, beginners in forestry, and others. Both works have features in common, yet in a way they supplement each other.

ROTH presents the subject in the simplest possible manner. The relation of the forests to light, shade, soil, moisture, and temperature is discussed. The subject of "forestry" is treated under the following headings: the raising and keeping up the forest, its care, its use, and its business. A third part deals with the forest as a protective cover, the distribution of the forests in the United States, the wood and its properties, and closes with a valuable key to the common trees of the United States.

GIFFORD in the first part discusses the meaning of "forest" and "forestry," and treats of wood lots on farms, the forest canopy, the forest as a soil improver, the geographical distribution of forests, and barriers to forest extension. Part II treats of the formation and tending of forests. The author recognizes the intimate relations existing between the study of forestry and forest botany, especially plant ecology. In the third part the industrial phase of the subject is treated in a very interesting way, and in Part IV are brief descriptions of the location, areas, and special features of the forest reserves. Both books are well illustrated, mostly with half-tone reproductions of photographs.—H. N. WHITFORD.

Books for schools of pharmacy.

DR. ALBERT SCHNEIDER'S recent book³ dealing with powdered vegetable drugs is the only work of its kind in English. In it 195 vegetable powders are described, 164 of them being figured. The first part treats of the color, odor, and test of vegetable drugs, the general histology of vegetable powders, equipment and methods of examination, parasites, adulteration, powdering and sifting, and includes two keys for identification. The second part contains a special description, with illustrations of the more important vegetable powders used in the United States.

DR. HENRY KRAEMER has prepared a book⁴ intended to meet the botanical needs of students of pharmacy. The first part deals with plant

²GIFFORD, JOHN, *Practical forestry*, 8vo. pp. xiv + 284. *figs.* 35. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1902.

ROTH, FILIBERT, *First book of forestry*. 8vo. pp. ix + 281. *figs.* 98. Boston: Ginn & Co. 1902. 85c.

³SCHNEIDER, ALBERT, *Powdered vegetable drugs*. 8vo. pp. 323. Pittsburg: Calumet Publishing Co. 1902. \$2.50.

⁴KRAEMER, HENRY, *A course in botany and pharmacognosy*. 8vo. pp. 384. Philadelphia: The author. 1902.

morphology, under the two general headings of "the cell" and "the vegetative and reproductive parts of the plant." The treatment of these subjects is not from the modern biological standpoint, but rather from the standpoint of the details and terminology used by pharmacists. The second part treats of pharmacognosy, the two chapters being entitled "crude vegetable drugs" and "powdered vegetable drugs." The third part deals with reagents, and the fourth part consists of a set of seventeen plates.—J. M. C.

MINOR NOTICES.

A BULLETIN⁵ of considerable economic importance has just been issued by the Bureau of Forestry. The work is divided into two parts. In the first part Hall describes several successful plantations in Kansas and discusses the important cultural points. In the second von Schrenk treats of the fungus diseases. The mycelium of *Polyporous versicolor* frequently destroys the heart wood of the tree. The bulletin is excellently illustrated.—H. N. WHITFORD.

E. S. BURGESS⁶ has published a first volume of Aster studies, which is confined to the general historical treatment, leaving the description of species to a volume soon to follow. "The present volume traces the history of Aster to 1600, or through the continuance of the ancient monotype conception of Aster; that is, until Clusius's polytype conception came into full dominance as embodied in the series of Aster species set forth by him in 1601." The volume is really a sketch of the history of pre-Clusian botany, and is a very welcome addition to the botanical literature of English readers.—J. M. C.

A NEW FASCICLE⁷ of Urban's *Symbolae Antillanae* has appeared. The first paper (pp. 161–274) is a presentation of Piperaceae by C. DECANDOLLE, 152 species being recognized, 27 (Piper 21, Peperomia 6) of which are described as new. The second paper (275–279) is a continuation of the description of new Hepaticae (10 in number) by F. STEPHANI. The third paper is a continuation of descriptions of new genera and species, by I. URBAN. The new species are 56 in number, and the new genera are *Chaenotheca* (Euphorbiaceae), *Krugiodendron* (Rhamnaceae), and *Neobuchia* (Bombacaceae).—J. M. C.

MILLSPAUGH⁸ has published an account of the flora of St. Croix, the largest of the group of islands known as the Danish West Indies. A general

⁵HALL, W. L., and VON SCHRENK, HERMANN, The hardy catalpa. Bureau Forestry, U. S. Dept. Agric. Bull. 37. pp. 58. pls. 30. 1902.

⁶BURGESS, E. S., History of pre-Clusian botany in its relation to Aster. Mem. Torr. Bot. Club 10: 1–447. 1902.

⁷URBAN, IGNATIUS, *Symbolae Antillanae seu fundamenta florae Indiae occidentalis*. Vol. III. fasc. II. pp. 101–352. Leipzig: Gebrüder Bornträger. 1902. M. 10.80.

⁸MILLSPAUGH, C. F., *Flora of the island of St. Croix*. Field Columb. Mus. Publ. 68. Bot. Series 1: 441–546. with map. 1902.